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Plant Pest News

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ANNOUNCING NEW PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE (PPQ) PUBLICATIONS

Several series of technical papers and a newsletter directed toward plant protection activities will be published instead of the Cooperative Plant Pest Report, which dealt mainly with domestic pest activities. This is the first newsletter, PLANT PEST NEWS. It will be issued as needed. The following categories will generate a newsletter: significant new United States records, alerts to impending danger of new pests, first finds of unestablished, economically important pests in regions distant from known infested/infected areas in the United States, and significant interceptions at United States ports of entry.

Other items to be published in the newsletter, depending on available data and space, include distribution records of (1) pests of concern to export certification, (2) selected major domestic pests, (3) PPQ program or related pests, and (4) pests previously known as exotics; first interceptions or regulatory finds in uninfested areas; references for books or papers on identifying any pest important to PPQ activities; common or scientific name changes and new host data for any pest published in the newsletter or the technical papers; lists of services available to expedite PPQ work; action taken on new pests; special situation reports; and announcements of technical papers as they are available.

A NEW ROOT-KNOT NEMATODE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

A new root-knot nematode on potatoes has been reported in the Pacific Northwest by Santo et al. (1980). This new species, Meloidogyne chitwoodi Golden et al., has been found in some commercial production areas. Potato tubers examined during 1977 to 1980 showed this nematode to be

present in the lower, middle, and upper Columbia River Basin and other northwestern parts of Washington; the lower, middle, and upper Snake River regions of Idaho; and areas in Oregon. Distribution seems to indicate infections have been in the Northwest for some time. Delimiting surveys are underway in these areas according to Dr. G. Santo of Washington State University.

Meloidogyne chitwoodi also reproduces on sugar beets, corn, wheat, barley, and oats but only slightly or not at all on pepper, watermelon, tobacco, peanuts, cotton, or alfalfa. Wheat, corn, and alfalfa are significant hosts since these crops are commonly rotated with potatoes. As this nematode causes little or no galling on potato roots, the symptoms, especially on rootlets, may be easily missed even if roots are heavily infected.

References

Golden, A.M. [et al.]. Description and SEM observations of Meloidogyne chitwoodi n.sp. (Meloidogynidae), a root-knot nematode on potato in the Pacific Northwest. J. Nematol. 12(4):319-327, 1980.

Santo, G.S. [et al.]. Occurrence and host range of a new root-knot nematode (Meloidogyne chitwoodi) in the Pacific Northwest. Plant Disease 64(10):951-952, 1980.

✓ NEW CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES RECORD

A diaspidid scale, Morganella longispina (Morgan), as reported by S. Nakahara, PPQ, was collected for the first time in the continental United States at Miami, Florida, on October 24, 1980, by G.T. Muroaka, PPQ. Specimens were identified by R.D. Stewart and R.P. Higgins, and confirmed by S. Nakahara, all of PPQ.

Immatures and adults (alive and dead) were taken from damaged oleander (Nerium oleander) hedge along a road. This species is usually intercepted on Citrus fruits in baggage inspections by agricultural quarantine officers.

Ebeling (1959, Subtropical fruit pests, p. 272) and Talhouk (1975, in Citrus, CIBA-GEIGY Agrochem. Tech. Mon. No. 4, p. 21) list it as a minor pest of Citrus in Brazil and China. Life history data are not available. It infests stems, leaves, and fruits.

Besides Hawaii and Puerto Rico, this scale is known from Australia, Bermuda, India, Indonesia, Mauritius, New Guinea, Philippines, and Rodrigues and from parts of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, South America, and the South Pacific.

Some economic hosts are Camellia spp., Carica papaya (papaya), Cinnamomum verum (cinnamon), Citrus spp., Eriobotrya japonica (loquat), Ficus carica (common fig), Fraxinus sp., Macadamia sp., Mangifera indica (mango), Morus sp. (a mulberry), Nerium oleander (oleander), Persea americana (avocado), Prunus dulcis (almond), Prunus persica (peach), Prunus sp. (plum), Psidium guajava (guava), Punica granatum (pomegranate), Salix sp., and Theobroma cacao (cacao).

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS) ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAM

T. McIntyre, PPQ, reports that the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, delegates enforcement responsibility for endangered plant species to PPQ. In 1981, with initial funding support from Congress, APHIS is preparing to more fully assume its role in this noteworthy preservation and conservation program. Two significant rulemakings to be published in the Federal Register are in the final stages of preparation, specifying requirements permitting PPQ to fully enforce the Act and Convention. Initial action is proposed to select ports for importation, exportation,

and reexportation of protected plant species. The second major action in 1981 will set up regulations for enforcement provisions of the Act and Convention.

In future articles on the APHIS, PPQ endangered species program, T. McIntyre will review actions and activities related to international problems, world trade in endangered species, rescue center programs for seized plants, and the USDA role in national and international committees and commissions.

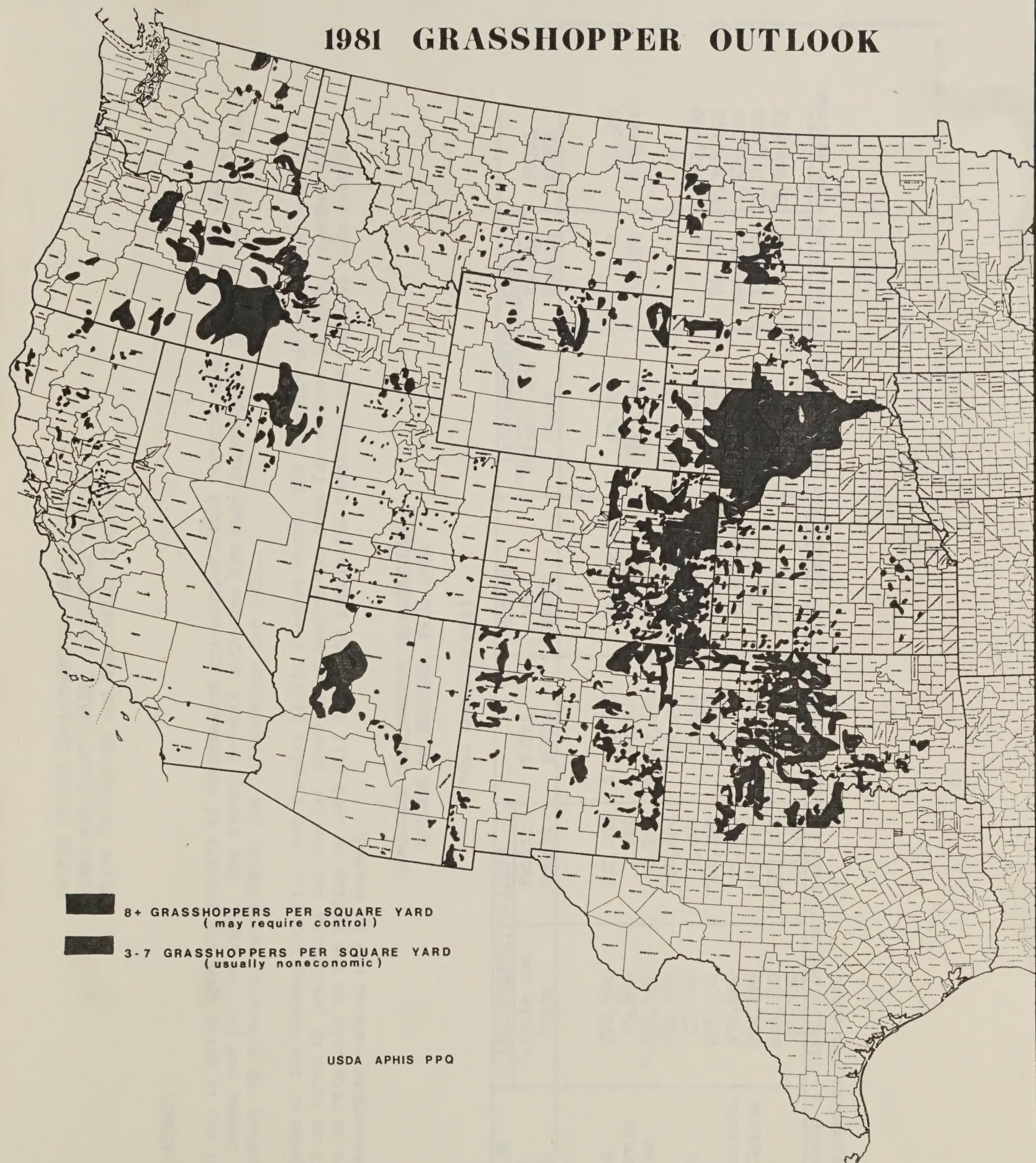
KHAPRA BEETLE SITUATION

Since October 1980 there have been several khapra beetle detections in eighteen various establishments in seven states as reported by D. Woodham and S. Wilson, PPQ. Specimens were identified by PPQ Identifiers F. Krim and E.J. Ford, Jr., and were confirmed by J.M. Kingsolver, Science and Education Administration, Insect Identification & Beneficial Insect Introduction Institute, Systematic Entomology Laboratory.

A total of five different establishments were reported as infested with khapra beetle in New Jersey. In Moonachie, Bergen County, 11 live larvae were collected on October 27, 1980, in a spice warehouse. In another spice warehouse in Harrison, Essex County, 10+ live larvae and 3 cast skins were collected October 30. In an empty warehouse in Newark, Essex County, one live larva was collected October 31. On the same day, five live larvae were collected in a bagging company. Two more live larvae were collected on December 2 at an importer's warehouse in Glassboro, Gloucester County. All of these except the empty warehouse were fumigated; this warehouse was treated with a high pressure pesticide spray.

In Maryland four different establishments in Baltimore were found infested. In a spice processing plant three live larvae were found on November 21, 1980. In a second spice processing plant one live larva was collected from debris on November 25. Both estab-

1981 GRASSHOPPER OUTLOOK



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs

TO COOPERATORS:

This map is based upon the results of cooperative grasshopper adult surveys made on rangeland during the late Summer and Fall of 1980. The survey reveals where and how many grasshoppers infest rangeland areas, and indicates the potential severity of the infestations for 1981.

Because of the unknown climatic and complex biotic factors ahead, the interpretation of this data is difficult in terms of predicting the precise location of and/or the need for control in 1981. Nymphal surveys made on rangeland in the Spring of 1981 will determine population densities and indicate more exactly where grasshopper control may be needed.

RANGELAND GRASSHOPPER INFESTATIONS
ACREAGE BY REGIONS, FALL 1980

(Areas shown in red)

REGION AND STATE	LANDOWNERSHIP--ACRES		TOTAL ACRES	REGION AND STATE	LANDOWNERSHIP--ACRES		TOTAL ACRES
	Private and State	Public Domain			Private and State	Public Domain	
WESTERN							
Arizona	728,500	772,000	1,500,500	Washington	65,920	0	65,920
California	45,280	2,300	47,580	Wyoming	719,340	81,120	800,460
Colorado	6,611,400	356,200	6,967,600				
Idaho	288,280	610,800	899,080	SOUTHCENTRAL			
Montana	22,000	7,000	29,000	Kansas	182,400	0	182,400
Nevada	224,736	360,122	584,858	Nebraska	4,308,392	76,800	4,385,192
North Dakota	170,000	44,000	214,000	N. Mexico	5,875,000	300,000	6,175,000
South Dakota	204,140	145,600	349,740	Oklahoma	1,137,000	10,000	1,147,000
Oregon	631,000	1,329,000	1,960,000	Texas	3,968,635	0	3,968,635
Utah	24,105	19,550	43,655				

The survey was planned and performed by Plant Protection and Quarantine personnel in cooperation with various State Agencies concerned.

lishments were treated with selected fumigation pesticide treatment.

In a bagging warehouse two live larvae and one cast skin were picked up in rat bait stations on December 4. Live larvae were collected in an exporting establishment. These two establishments were fumigated February 7-8, 1981.

In New York, positive collections were made in three different establishments. A glove manufacturing plant in Gloversville, Fulton County, where five live larvae and two cast skins were collected on November 7, has been fumigated. In a spice processing plant in Brooklyn, Kings County, 15 live larvae, 3 dead larvae, and 6 cast skins were found in burlap bags and paint cracks on December 16. Treatment is pending. In a nut factory in the same county, one live larva and two cast skins were found in melon seed

debris on January 8, 1981 and four live larvae on January 9. These areas have been fumigated.

In Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, one live larva and one cast skin were found in a bagging company warehouse on December 10. In another bagging company in Lancaster, Lancaster County, one larva was collected on December 11. Treatment of these two establishments is pending. In Michigan, five larvae (one live) were found in an ornamental iron manufacturing plant in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County, on November 13; treatment is pending. Recently in Texas, five positive collections were made in a commercial store in Houston, Harris County. This store has been fumigated. Live larvae were detected in California in a bagging warehouse in San Francisco, San Francisco County, and another in Sacramento, Sacramento County. Treatment of these two facilities is pending.

PEST INTERCEPTIONS OF QUARANTINE SIGNIFICANCE AT PORTS OF ENTRY

The following interception records furnished by Thomas Wallenmaier, PPQ, provide a sampling of adult moths that are taken in quarantine work. They are often captured "at large" on aircraft, especially in the cargo holds. These are the first recorded interceptions of these species.

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Probable Origin</u>	<u>Port of Entry</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<u>Circobotys</u> sp.	West Pacific	Honolulu	W. Snell	These are pyralid moths.
<u>Dadica lineosa</u> (Moore)	Japan	Anchorage	F. Rothgery	This is an oriental noctuid species.
<u>Eudocima (=Othreis)</u> <u>amurensis</u> or near (Staudinger)	Formosa	Anchorage	F. Rothgery	The adults of these noctuid moths are fruit piercers.
<u>Mythimna turea</u> (Linnaeus)	Asia	Seattle	G. Browne	Larvae of this Old World species are cutworms.
<u>Nygmia varians</u> Walker	Asia	Seattle	G. Browne	This species belongs to the tussock moth family, which includes the notorious gypsy moth.
<u>Semiothisa infusata</u> (Guenee)	New Zealand	Honolulu	W. Snell	Larvae of this geometrid moth are forest insect pests.

MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY UPDATE

D. Woodham, PPQ, reports that Mediterranean fruit fly problems continued in the Santa Clara County area of California in spite of the winter months. It has not yet invaded commercial groves or any other significant economic areas. Eradication was achieved in the Los Angeles area.

An important addition to the San Jose and Santa Clara project has been the extensive stripping of host fruit, which began the first week in January. To date, 332 metric tons (366 short tons) of fruit have been stripped, bagged, and buried for a 1,100+ block area. Stripping problems with loquat led to substituting multiple bait sprays for this host. Fruit stripping will continue in

the major infested core area until all 129 sq km (50 sq mi) completed.

In San Diego County, a female Mediterranean fruit fly was taken in a Jackson trap in an orange tree on November 25, 1980. Due to this find, trapping in southern California has been intensified. Eventually, the entire southern half of the State will be under strict surveillance.

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